

LABOR CLAPNET

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Union Label Exhibit Was Creditable Show And Drew Great Crowds

Union labor's efforts to forward the interests of the workers were given a glowing tribute of indorsement and support last week during the three days and four evenings of the presentation of the Union Label Exhibition at the Civic Auditorium.

Attendance, enthusiasm and sustained enjoyment of every feature offered indicated that the community had responded, in an almost unheard-of manner, to an enterprise which in its inception had been somewhat nebulous, except in the minds of a few devoted followers of its basic purposes, and its probable success a subject of misgiving and some anxiety.

Discouragements were encountered—some evidently in very high places and unworthy of those, either self-appointed or aspiring, to advance the permanent welfare of the inhabitants of a great city—but these were overcome, and it is not necessary at this time to recount them.

Attendance Maintained Throughout

From the opening on Thursday evening, when Mayor Angelo J. Rossi welcomed the throng, which was then declared to be the largest ever known to visit the Auditorium, to the close on Sunday evening, when the mayor again gave an address and highly complimented the local labor movement on the success of the Exhibition, the crowds in attendance never diminished.

It is estimated that 225,000 visitors viewed the exhibits and enjoyed the entertainment. The gallery of the Auditorium seats 7000, and each evening at an early hour these were seated, with many standing in the aisles in quest of seats. On the main floor, containing the exhibits, there was always a moving mass, and near the stage, where the entertainment program was given, progress through the crowd was always with the greatest of effort.

The union label, the union card and the union button certainly came into their own in the way of attracting attention and publicizing themselves as emblems of fair conditions for the workers. The exhibits proved a revelation to the general public and a source of education that should in future be productive of lasting benefit in forwarding the demand for union merchandise and union services.

Union Emblems Come Into Their Own

Union labels and union products heretofore slightly known, in comparison to those of their older and better advertised kindred, came to the view and intimate understanding of the buying public in a way that has long been desired by the labor movement.

Some hints of the contemplated plans of the exhibitors have been heretofore given in these columns, and the promises made in advance proved in many cases conservative.

The booths of a leading hotel and that of a bank greeted one at the main entrance. The nearby elaborate display of the District Council of Carpenters, the costly set-up of the millmen, glaziers and plasterers immediately attracted notice to the right, while some of the mechanical processes of the printing trades in actual operation and the extensive showing of the Automotive Council on the

left produced some bewilderment on the part of the visitor as to which way to proceed.

Exhibits Hold Attention

But once embarked upon a course there was no end of interest. Union operators from a shirt factory were demonstrating the successive sewing operations in that industry. The Butchers' Union had a classy display of everything in their line, from the lowly "hot dog" to a quarter of beef, and their method of disposal of the products to the public proved a continuous attraction. The Grocery Clerks gave away bags of food merchandise almost hourly to the holders of the lucky tickets, which were absolutely free. The Ice Wagon Drivers had a most attractive display of refrigeration that was a constant source of interest as the courteous attendants explained the details and advantages. The United Garment Workers had numerous samples of the work in their industry made by members of that organization. A puppet show, with a hospital setting, presented by the Hospital and Institutional Workers, was a source of delight to young and old. Pharmacists didn't fail to take full advantage of the opportunity to present to the public printed lists of the various stores in the city which employ their members. Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers and the Barbers and Beauticians in closely adjoining booths, with demonstrations of their work and processes, were a center of attraction.

Colorful and Varied Displays

An extensive display of the hand tools of the Coopers' Union, each piece brightly painted to show the use for which it finally takes its place in industry, was most instructive. A leading jewelry firm had its workmen at the bench engaged in diamond setting, with magnifying glasses for spectators to closely observe the delicate processes used. The Municipal Carmen, Division 518, and the Municipal Railway handed out thousands of pieces of literature from their booth, which had a miniature of one of the cars of the system and also mechanical appurtenances of the rolling stock. Representatives of the Social Security Board, at another booth, were busy in answering questions on details of the system and handing out pamphlets further explaining its workings. A wine company, and a tobacco firm, manufacturing union products only, presented attractive displays of merchandise. And the Musicians' Union was always in evidence with most attractive entertainment, for their members comprised Art Wiedner's orchestra, which not only furnished delightful music as part of the program but accompanied the various vaudeville and other attractions provided on the stage. The above-mentioned give only a glimpse of the colorful displays in the many and varied booths.

Movie Stars Made Big Hit

To union members of the movie colony in Hollywood the local labor movement will always be grateful for liberal aid in promoting the entertainment feature of the Exhibition. Eddie Quillan, Constance Moore, Edith Fellows, Wallace Beery, Lyle Talbot, Buck Jones, Tom Kennedy and Andy Devine made personal appearances, and most of them remained throughout the Exhibition and were present each afternoon and evening and entered heartily into the purpose and spirit of the enterprise—all to the great delight of the thousands of visitors.

In addition to these stars the vaudeville acts mentioned in last week's issue were of a high order and were eagerly awaited. Little Joyce

(Continued on Page Six)

Unemployment Benefits For First Four Months Total Hundred Million

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19.—With almost \$105,000,000 in unemployment benefits paid to insured jobless workers in twenty-five states during the first four months of 1938, R. Gordon Wagenet, director of the bureau of unemployment compensation of the Social Security Board, stated today that "unemployment insurance is accomplishing exactly what the proponents of the Social Security Act intended."

"The unemployment insurance funds," Wagenet said, "are flowing back into the local communities and are being spent for food, rent, clothing and services. They sustain to an appreciable extent the purchasing power of workers whose normal means of livelihood have been temporarily cut off, and thereby act as a brake on the downward trend of business and employment. Moreover, unemployment insurance means earned benefits to the workers, not a handout, a fact which has a very great effect on morale."

Millions of Benefit Checks

More than 10,500,000 benefit checks were issued during the first four months of the year in twenty-five benefit-paying states from January through May 4, each check representing a dollar of compensation for a totally or partially unemployed worker. Of the total number of workers who filed claims since the first of the year, some 2,600,000 were found eligible for benefits. Not all of these drew payments, however, since a certain number found other employment during their "waiting periods," or moved from the locality, or for some other reason discontinued their claims before they became payable.

State unemployment compensation administrators report that the effect of unemployment insurance on workers' purchasing power and business conditions has been particularly noticeable in certain small and one-industry communities where lack of work meant that a large segment of the wage-earning population was deprived of its regular source of income. In such communities payment of benefits to unemployed workers, the large majority of whom would not have been eligible for employment on federal works projects or for local relief, has prevented serious losses to retail business and the service industries and, as a result, has tended to maintain employment levels in those occupations.

All States Will Pay Benefits in 1939

Only one of the states now paying benefits—Wisconsin—had begun its benefit program prior to this year. Wisconsin began payments in August, 1936, and paid some \$2,200,000 in benefits by January 1, 1938, as compared with approximately \$3,800,000 from January 1 to April 30. Twenty-two of the states launched their benefit programs on January 1 with benefits becoming payable after the end of a two, three or four weeks' waiting period, in accordance with the state law; two states—Indiana and Mississippi—have just begun making payments, their benefit programs having become effective April 1, 1938. The remainder of the states will begin making payments later this year or next so that by July, 1938, all states will have entered the benefit-paying stage.

By March 31 the forty-eight states and the District of Columbia, Alaska and Hawaii, all of which

now have unemployment compensation laws, had accumulated more than \$753,000,000 in the unemployment trust fund in the United States Treasury. Withdrawals from the fund by the twenty-three states which were then paying benefits amounted to approximately \$80,500,000, leaving a balance of some \$446,000,000 to the credit of these states.

Benefits paid to California residents through April 27 totaled \$4,859,373.79.

California's Contribution to the Fund

Unemployment compensation payments to California's eligible unemployed workers from the unemployment trust fund are increasing steadily, James L. Matthews, chairman of the Unemployment Reserves Commission, said last week.

As of April 28 559,690 checks have been paid to the state's insured workers. The chairman said estimated quarterly income to the fund for the above period will be considerably above charges against the reserves.

Up to April 28 the commission had collected \$79,766,515.19 from subject employers, and it was estimated by the chairman that \$10,000,000 additional moneys were contributed to the fund by May 10 for the first quarter of 1938, which became delinquent after midnight, April 30.

Interest payments into the fund, which is held by the United States Treasury, totaled \$841,202 up to January 1, 1938, and it is believed the interest for the first quarter alone of this year will approximate \$412,000, making a total of \$1,253,000 to be credited to the fund on the basis of its earnings.

At the close of the first quarter of this year 23,833 California employers, hiring eight or more persons, were subject to the act, as were 16,501 employers who hire from four to seven persons inclusive. Officials of the department believe that as yet some 24,000 employers in the latter group have not registered with the department as subject.

These employers, it was pointed out, will be responsible for contributions to the fund from Jan-

uary 1, 1938. Interest on their contributions already has started to accumulate.

The combined groups of subject employers make a total of 64,334, all of which will be making contributions.

Employees hired by the eight or more group total 1,438,664, and in the four to seven group 200,000, making a total of 1,638,664 workers in California who are covered by unemployment insurance in the event they are out of employment.

New York's Minimum Wage Law May Be Applied to Candy Trade

A detailed survey of wages, hours, and other working conditions in the candy factories of New York state has just been completed by the Division of Women in Industry and Minimum Wage of the State Department of Labor, and the statistical analysis of the findings is now under way.

As soon as possible after the analysis is completed a report of the investigations will be submitted to a minimum wage board for the candy industry, which is soon to be appointed. If the report shows that any considerable number of workers in the industry are being paid sub-standard wages, the Minimum Wage Act, now in force in the laundries of the state, may be applied to the candy industry as well.

Fish Industry Workers

Plans for the opening of negotiations on a state-wide basis for all workers in the fish industry will be discussed Sunday at the monthly meeting of the California State Council of Fish Industry Workers in the Labor Temple, San Francisco.

Plans for the meeting were announced this week in behalf of Mrs. Andrea Gomez, San Pedro, president, and Frank Rowland, Monterey, secretary of the Council.

The negotiations are scheduled to begin with the employers Monday, May 23. Statewide negotiations was one of the original goals announced by the Council when it was formed several months ago.

Reports will also be received and plans made to continue organization of fishermen under the banner of the A. F. of L. Detailed reports of the organizations will be made to the Council meeting.

The Council, through its affiliated A. F. of L. unions, represents more than 11,000 workers in the industry, and new affiliations are coming in constantly, Rowland reported.

Unions from San Diego, San Pedro, Monterey, Benicia, Richmond, San Francisco and other points are represented, covering fish canning, reduction and fishing workers.

Entries Flock In for Bowling Tournament

Things are going along swell in the first annual Union Labor Bowling Tournament, now being sponsored by the Building Service Employees' Union, Local No. 87. The tournament will officially open at the Golden Gate Alleys on June 6, 1938, at 7:30 p. m., and the first ball will be sent flying down the alleys by the president of the San Francisco Labor Council, Jack Shelley. Brother Shelley has pledged his whole-hearted support to help make this bowling tournament one of the finest and largest on the Pacific Coast.

During the week many unions have been having practice games. Last Sunday one of the finest exhibitions of bowling by two unions was held in the Golden Gate Alleys between the Brewery Drivers' Union, Local No. 227, and the Building Service Employees, Local No. 87. This game resulted in a victory for the No. 1 team of the Building Service Employees, but, undaunted by the defeat, the Brewery Drivers are determined to beat this team, and a return game will witness one of the greatest bowling games ever played between two unions.

The Painters' Union, Local No. 1158, has promised the committee to have their four teams in the tournament, and a call from the Bakery Wagon Drivers says they will enter one team sure, with a possibility of six teams. The Miscellaneous Union has come through with another team, making three teams already entered in this tournament. The Chauffeurs' Union, through the Luxor Cab, will enter two teams. Millinery Workers' Union will have a good team entered. Retail Drivers' Union, Local No. 278, according to Brother Red De Martini, will have three teams and will try to make it six. The Garment Workers, Local No. 45, will have one team. News Vendors' Union will have their two teams playing. Retail Shoe Clerks will have two teams. Bartenders' Union has entered another team, making two teams. Hospital and Institutional Workers will have two teams. Nurses' Union will have their team on hand to take care of the sore arms. Garage Employees' Union No. 665 will have one team. This list is in addition to those already entered.

Considerable discussion has arisen over whether to make the league a handicap affair or to form various leagues. This whole matter will be settled by the team captains in the meeting to be held in the Building Service Employees' hall, 109 Golden Gate avenue, at 8 p. m. Wednesday, June 1. The meeting of the team captains will decide on the entry fee, prizes, and whether handicap or leagues. At this meeting a permanent president, secretary and financial secretary will be elected. Already plans are being made to make our Union Labor Bowling Tournament a yearly affair.

Due to the Union Label Exhibit and the officers of the various unions being kept busy, the closing of the entries has been extended to the night of June 1, 1938, when the teams will be formed and reservations made in the various alleys to accommodate our teams.

Look in the Labor Clarion for last minute news on the greatest sports tournament ever held by organized labor in San Francisco—the Union Labor Bowling Tournament.

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Vandeleur Explains Labor's Opposition to Reorganization Bill

Certain individuals and groups are causing criticism to be voiced against the action of the California State Federation of Labor in urging defeat, through "shelving," of the so-called administration reorganization bill in our national Congress.

It is apparent that such criticism is being circulated by those who have not made a thorough study of the matter or who have not a clear understanding of the long-established system of democracy in American government. It is also apparent that the circulators of such criticism are unfamiliar with machinations and practices of politicians and others who seek to destroy, in various ways, the democratic principles of our national government.

The American Federation of Labor, through experts who have for many years watched such machinations and practices "on the ground" in Washington, is familiar with operations of government. On the basis of sound knowledge the American Federation of Labor opposed passage of the recent reorganization bill. No partisan politics entered into the situation.

On March 21, 1938, the secretary received the following telegram from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor:

Green Urges Action

"Very important you immediately wire your senators and congressmen to recommit the obnoxious government reorganization bill now pending, which adversely affects every trade and occupation and which permits executive to transfer, abolish or consolidate government agencies or to abolish, or consolidate, government agencies or to abolish duties and change wage classifications of employees at will."

On this basis, on wise counsel and careful study, the officers of the California State Federation of Labor opposed the reorganization bill and urged all California members of the Senate and House of Representatives to do likewise.

In discussing the stand of labor against the measure it might well be asked, "Would any member of any union be always and entirely agreeable to giving a general president sweeping powers to do whatever he desired with any unit or function of the organization?"

Not Aimed at President

The answer (as disclosed by the flood of communications to our senators and congressmen in Washington) was an emphatic "no" as far as the reorganization bill was concerned. And the answer of "no" was not aimed at a President who has given labor more than any in decades.

The reason for labor's attitude and action on the measure were many. It might be well for all members of organized labor to have some knowledge of them and realize their seriousness.

First, during the present Congress the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated organizations were consistently denied the opportunity of being heard by the House committee in charge of proposed reorganization measures.

Second, the American Federation of Labor repeatedly called upon members of the House of Representatives and insisted that a full and complete debate, with every opportunity for amend-

ments on proposals, be provided from the floor in accordance with democratic principles, with no results.

Third, our experts proposed that it be provided in the proposed measure that any executive order issued by the President of the United States under the measure and which consolidated, abolished, or transferred any bureau or department or any of their functions should not be effective until approved by a majority of both houses of Congress.

In Accord With Democratic Principles

This is in accordance with the true principles of democracy as subscribed to by the American Federation of Labor and the California State Federation of Labor.

Fourth, we have consistently objected to a sweeping delegation of congressional authority to the executive branch of the government because we cannot understand how anyone interested in maintaining our form of government, and our Constitution, can propose or vote for any such change without the people having a voice.

Fifth, we hold that Congress, to which the citizens elect their senators or representatives, should or must retain all of its constitutional authority in conformity with the principles of democratic procedure and democratic government and that such powers should be broadened and extended instead of being curtailed or surrendered.

Labor spends many dollars electing legislators in cities, states and the nation who are expected to be friendly to labor and protect the democratic rights of labor. Our duty does not end there. We must see that democratic policies are carried out. If our legislators are to vote away our rights, why should we vote for them?

Not to Be Swayed by Partisanship

The California State Federation of Labor has a patriotic interest in our form of government. It has a proud and patriotic right in defending the democratic principles to which its members have subscribed. We must not be carried away by partisanship. We must insist that every proposal stand on the merits of democratic principles. We must consult expert opinion of those close to national affairs.

We need not obey suggestions or opinions. But when and if there is a preponderance of opinion for or against any proposal, it is well for us to examine fully into the facts and make our decision cautiously and carefully after such examination. This is what the executive officer of the California State Federation of Labor did before and after consulting other officers of the body, along with the American Federation of Labor and many state federations, international unions and others.

The vote on "shelving" the reorganization bill indicates we were right. A special committee has been appointed in Congress to study the matter and report. Perhaps objectionable features will be eliminated. It is the opinion of expert observers

that some form of reorganization is desirable in behalf of needed government efficiency, but that such sweeping authority as proposed in the defeated bill should not be granted without approval of both houses of Congress.

Detailing the objections to the defeated measure would be too lengthy a task, but with the suggestion that anyone interested make a thorough research of the matter in the Congressional Record. I am fraternally,

EDWARD D. VANDELEUR, Secretary,
California State Federation of Labor.

Sheep Shearers' Union

Members of the Sheep Shearers' Union of North America, an American Federation of Labor affiliate, were forced out on strike in the states of Arizona and California in their attempt to bargain collectively and uphold a living wage for shearing sheep.

The strike in Arizona was called on January 26, in California on March 24. The strike existed fifty-three days in Arizona and almost a month in California. Not one case of violence can be charged against union or non-union sheep shearers who were involved. The Sheep Shearers' Union, with the full support of organized labor in California, has declared a national boycott on lamb and mutton.

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Change of address or additions to union mail lists must come through the secretary of each organization. Members are notified that this is obligatory.

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FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1938

Labor Can Determine Own Problems

"The Employers' Committee of Forty-three today considered a proposal from the local C. I. O. for 'a town hall meeting of all San Francisco' for each side to discuss publicly the city's labor relations."

This was the introduction to a news story in the San Francisco "News" on Monday last. The story continued:

"The San Francisco District Industrial Union Council (C. I. O.) suggested to the employers a mass meeting 'at which the Committee of Forty-three and C. I. O. would gather around a conference table for a complete discussion of matters of mutual interest.' Arrangements were started for the meeting."

While the suggested meeting is spoken of as a "cross-section of the city's life to exert the power of public opinion to improve industrial relations," there is little in the article to indicate that much attention is to be given to organized labor in the movement. True, the recently organized and subversive C. I. O. is included in the organizations which have been mentioned as participants, but the American Federation of Labor and the prominent local leaders of that organization are not even mentioned. It would seem like a performance of "Hamlet" with Hamlet left out.

In all the discussions that have arisen from the organization of the "Committee of Forty-three" it appears to have been taken for granted that industrial problems are to be adjudicated by that committee. While representatives of labor have been called in to attend the meetings, they have been in the proportion of about one to a hundred—the hundred representing the employers.

No industrial problems will be settled in San Francisco or any other city by the "town meeting" method or otherwise that does not take into consideration the labor element. To call in two or three "representatives" of labor chosen by the "Committee of Forty-three" itself is to deliver a rebuff to labor which even the old Industrial Association would not have exceeded in impudence.

If the sponsors of the "Committee of Forty-three" are sincere in wishing to prevent industrial disputes let them proceed on a democratic basis. The organized workers of San Francisco are capable of determining their own problems, and will insist on being represented in discussions which deal with their welfare in the same relative numbers as are the employers.

Public education cost \$162,562,905, or \$110 per student, in California during the fiscal year of 1935-36, it has been announced by Walter E. Morgan, chief of the division of research and statistics of the State Department of Education.

Starvation-Pay Envelopes

With consideration of the federal wages and hours bill by the present Congress guaranteed through the action of 218 representatives signing the resolution to discharge the Rules Committee, which by a vote of 8 to 6 had denied members of the House the right to vote on the measure, from further control of the bill and placing it directly before the House membership, it is interesting to note the effect which the enactment of the bill into statute law will have on the wages of low-paid employees.

It is quite generally claimed that the measure would to a large degree be limited to the Southern states. The inaccuracy of this view is shown in the statement by Representative Hamilton Fish of New York in presenting to the House of Representatives reliable information he received about low wages paid to mill workers in that state. The low pay facts were presented to the New York State members of Congress in a special committee meeting by a number of the underpaid workers themselves.

Pointing out that the New York State members of Congress in a special committee meeting had been presented with low-wage data by a number of underpaid New York workers, Fish said:

"I thought I knew something about the economic conditions in my own state, but I found out I was woefully ignorant of the deplorable and tragic conditions existing there. I knew that certain wage earners there were paid \$8, \$9, \$10 and \$12 a week, yes, but these people brought in slips and presented them to our committee showing where they had received 10 cents an hour, \$2 a week, \$3 a week, \$4 a week, \$5 a week and \$6 a week. I would not have believed it if some member had gotten up on the floor of the House and made such a statement. I was under the impression they paid from \$6 to \$12 a week in these sweatshops. But the facts are as I have stated them."

Asserting that he believed "the rank and file of the American people want to put an end to the terrible conditions of our wage earners in the sweatshops who are being exploited by human vultures," Fish announced his full and complete indorsement of the pending wages and hours bill as a practical means to realize this objective.

Representative Fish is right. The wages and hours bill, unanimously supported by the officials and members of the American Federation of Labor, would definitely end the starvation wages cited by the New York Congressman by providing a universal, nation-wide minimum rate of pay of 25 cents per hour with a provision that it shall be increased to 40 cents an hour within a period of three years. It will also end abnormally long hours imposed on employees through the provision which fixes a maximum work week of forty-four hours with a provision that it shall be reduced to forty hours within a period of two years.

These virtues of the bill have been trenchantly set forth by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, who said:

"No employer and no member of Congress from any section of the country can dare to assert that a minimum wage of \$11 or \$12 a week would be an oppressive imposition on American industry. Any industry which depends for survival on sweatshop wages and sweatshop conditions of labor should cease to exist in the public interest. Sweatshop labor is like an infection which spreads its paralyzing poison through the whole physical and economic system of the nation. It has been outlawed by public opinion. It should be outlawed by statute."

"Every member of Congress, regardless of party affiliation," Green added, "should vote for this new wage and hour bill."

Unmasking the Exchange

The Security and Exchange Commission investigation of the Richard Whitney fiasco is stripping all pretense of high-minded honor from the New York Stock Exchange. Member after member is shown to have known of Whitney's double dealing; and not one of them did anything about it. The final touch in this exposure was given, appropriately enough, by J. P. Morgan.

"Did you give any consideration at all to your responsibilities toward the Exchange in this matter?" asked the counsel for the S.E.C.

"No, none at all," said Mr. Morgan.

If he cared nothing for his responsibilities to his fellows on the Exchange, how much do you fancy he cares for his responsibilities to the public? That question wasn't asked; but Mr. Morgan, in another connection, went far toward furnishing the answer:

"Every man's money," said Mr. Morgan on the stand, "is entirely at his own disposal."

Most of us have been taught that wealth, like other forms of power, involves duties and responsibilities. Not Morgan. He openly says he can do what he pleases with his own money—and he sat by silent while Whitney did as he pleased with other people's money. The curbing of that biggest of gambling houses has gone a long way in the last five years. But it has a longer way still to go.

Members of union labor, and their families, should carefully examine petitions which they may be asked to sign for placing initiative proposals on the November ballot. The practice of signing such petitions "just to help a friend" is not conducive to good government nor to the proper use of the initiative law, the existence of which latter privilege is largely the result of the efforts of union labor. The appearance of the union label of the printing trades on an initiative petition is only a guarantee that the printing thereof was done under union conditions, but has no reference whatever to the merits of the proposal. Watch for the appearance of petitions—this year—the intent of which is to harass and impede the work of your union and that of the labor movement in general.

It has become the custom since some bright genius discovered the sales tax to tack another penalty on the purchase of the necessities of life every time it appears necessary to "balance the budget." We are now threatened with another cent tax on gasoline, which is more burdensome on the worker than on any other class. It is gratifying to note that a corporation has been formed in Long Beach to sponsor a referendum proposition against the sales tax on restaurant meals. There is no more reason why a tax should be levied on food bought in a restaurant than in a grocery store.

The beginning of this week saw the completion of arrangements for the opening of the big American Federation of Labor Union Label and Industrial Exhibition being held in Cincinnati this week—May 16 to 21, inclusive. Director General I. M. Ornburn, who is also secretary-treasurer of the A. F. of L. Union Label Trades Department, stated that he was pleased to announce that this first national Union Label Exhibition will prove to be one of the outstanding events in the business as well as the labor world.

The man who defied the opinion of the world's greatest engineers and built the Golden Gate Bridge in spite of them died this week. He will be remembered as long as the Golden Gate Bridge lasts—and longer. Also he will be an example to those who are easily discouraged by the world's opinion and serve as a model of courage, ability and persistence. Joseph B. Strauss will occupy a prominent place in the world's history of achievement.

Initiative Designed for Unions' Destruction—and Its Women Authors

THE following article, reproduced from an exchange (the credit line being "By Ellen McGrath"), gives a fairly accurate account of the activities and the underlying factors in the most recent attempt of Southern Californians Inc., Women of the Pacific and other anti-labor groups to harass the union labor movement.

It will be recalled that in last week's issue of the Labor Clarion was printed a warning from the California State Federation of Labor with regard to petitions now being circulated for placing on the November ballot an initiative proposal the purpose of which is an attempt to regulate in detail the affairs of union labor organizations. The warning therein should be kept in mind when reading the article reproduced below.

It is also interesting to note that machinery has been set in motion in Washington, D. C., having for its purpose the launching of an investigation by the LaFollette Senate Committee of the activities of anti-labor groups in southern California.

Mrs. Edwin Selvin is a good chore girl for the open shoppers. She learned the ways of big business while working as a secretary to Edwin Selvin, who edits the "Business Chronicle" in Seattle. Later she married him. Now together they spring to action at the whims of the Chamber of Commerce.

Both are good soldiers. Nothing is ever too much to expect them to do—in defense of the open shop.

But in Seattle their usefulness is ended. That's why the two Selvins are peddling their shoddy wares in Los Angeles—where open shoppers are making their last stand.

The Selvins have peddled brutality and received even less than the twenty pieces of silver. All they have asked is an occasional pat on the back from the Chamber of Commerce and enough advertising to pay for their weekly tirade against working people.

Forced to Start Anew

The "Business Chronicle" and the Selvins have served their superiors well. But the old tricks aren't working any more. So they have been forced to go somewhere for a fresh start—where their bloody history is not so well known.

The "Business Chronicle" was first heard of during the war and post-war hysteria in the Northwest. The "Chronicle" sounded the gun for mob violence that precipitated the Centralia massacre.

A world war veteran was dragged from the I. W. W. headquarters, tortured all night and hanged to a tree on the hillside. Others were sentenced to Walla Walla. Ray Becker remains today behind prison bars. Their crimes? They were trade unionists!

The Centralia massacre was one of the tragic repercussions of the Selvins' Mark-Them-for-Slaughter editorial policy.

The "Business Chronicle" began its bloody career in 1917. Its avowed purpose is to "formulate public sentiment along the right line."

Open Shop "Chronicle" Solution

The right line to the "Business Chronicle" in 1917 demanded "conscription of labor," attacked all labor unions as "treasonable, revolutionary, the avowed enemies of society."

It called for an end of "despotic rule of alien-controlled and un-American closed shop" and furiously attacked "law-hating, God defying, anarchistic renegades who masqueraded as labor leaders."

The "Business Chronicle" pointed the way. "What can be done to stay the spread of anarchy?" the paper asked. Then it gave the bloody answer! "Hang the Anarchists!" And it presented the longed-for result—"The Open Shop is the Only Solution."

After the Centralia massacre Selvin thought the lid was off. He wrote an editorial for the "Post-Intelligencer" called: "The Thing. The Cause. The Cure." It read:

Selvin Called for Murder

"Real Americans must rise as one man in righteous wrath. Smash un-American, anti-American organization in the land. Put to death the leaders and imprison for life aiders and abettors, deport aliens.

"The I. W. W., Non-Partisan League, closed shop labor unions must be hunted down and hounded until driven beyond the horizon.

"Invoke legal machinery that we have; if it is not sufficient, hastily construct something new."

After a rumpus created by the printing trades the "Post-Intelligencer" pulled the editorial, called back the early editions and printed an apology.

Edwin Selvin was arrested by federal agents a few days later for violating Section 211 of the Penal Code—for "tending to incite murder and assassination."

Seattle Laughs at Selvins

But the years have tempered the bitterness of the crime of Centralia. Seattle doesn't get annoyed with the Selvins any more. They only laugh.

Willing tools of the Chamber of Commerce, the Selvins were thrust into the hands of William Randolph Hearst's agents to try to break the strike on the "Post-Intelligencer" in 1936.

Mrs. Selvin organized the Women of Washington. They announced they were "consumers" whose babies couldn't get milk because of labor unions. They embarked on a union-busting campaign that had for its objective, not the elimination of a few racketeers in labor unions, but was designed to emasculate all trade unions and return to the open shop.

From the exclusive Highlands residential district

Motor Vehicle Fees Apportioned to Cities

Apportionment of motor vehicle fees to cities for the first quarter of 1938, announced by the Department of Motor Vehicles through the office of Governor Frank F. Merriam, show San Francisco will receive \$346,671.88, an increase over the first quarter of 1937, when the figure was \$320,437.02.

At the same time it was announced that \$131,298.38 had been allotted to San Francisco County for the first quarter of the year. This also represents an increase over the 1937 figure.

Total apportionment to counties for January, February and March reached \$1,175,001.47 as compared with 1,085,357.31 last year, while apportionment to cities totaled \$2,350,002.94 this year, \$2,170,714.63 last year.

UNION PICNIC NEXT SUNDAY

The second annual picnic of Fruit and Vegetable Clerks' Union No. 1017 will be given next Sunday, May 22, at Neptune Beach. The committee in charge announces that the advance sale of tickets indicates a fine attendance and that the entertainment features provided are proving attractive. The latter will include games for the young and old, with favors for the winners, and dancing will continue from 2 to 6 p. m. Tickets can be procured from clerks in various markets about the city, the price being 35 cents, the admission also including rides on the merry-go-round, the Lindy loop and the merry mix-up. The round-trip fare to the picnic ground by the S. P. ferry will be 30 cents. The Fruit and Vegetable Clerks are affiliated with the San Francisco Labor Council, the State Federation and the Union Label Section. Their headquarters are in the Grant building.

women were drafted for the emergency. They went in limousine marches on Governor Martin.

Bloodthirsty Ladies

They were clad in soft afternoon frocks and prided themselves on being every inch a lady—but they demanded state troops to shoot down newspaper workers who had dared to join a union.

Someone conceived the brilliant idea of picketing the Labor Temple. But the exclusive ladies shrank from such menial tasks. Mrs. Selvin had to herd women who were on the payroll up to the Labor Temple, where they passed back and forth for a while with banners demanding that babies get their milk. No one at the Labor Temple had the slightest objection.

A mass meeting was called for the Civic Auditorium. Again the flower of Seattle's aristocracy rolled up in limousines and demanded tear gas and riot clubs backed up with guns to break the strike.

"Fur-Coated Hussies"

Mayor Dore, who was at that time a progressive figure, threw confusion into the ranks of the women. He called them "fur-coated, perfumed hussies."

The outraged ladies went home and demanded that their husbands do something about it. But their husbands couldn't think what to do. They had already been vanquished at the Chamber of Commerce Waterloo—when their \$250,000 fund raised to break unions had failed.

The Chamber of Commerce had thrust the women into the front lines in a last strategic move to prevent organization.

The Roosevelt landslide tossed the Selvins into temporary retirement. They haven't had a listener since William Randolph Hearst decided—after the votes were counted—that Roosevelt looked like Andrew Jackson.

By hanging around the legislature, offering their soiled services to lobby for unpopular measures, by writing and trying to put over labor crippling legislation, the Selvins have made a living.

Los Angeles is to them a last desperate hope for a comeback.

Their Present Activities

April 29, 1938.

Mr. Carl Fletcher, Vice-President, California State Federation of Labor, Long Beach, Calif.

Dear Sir and Brother: A petition is being circulated by a group known as "Women of the Pacific" which is the most drastic measure ever conceived for the purpose of destroying A. F. of L. unions.

I am inclosing herewith a copy of a letter from State Attorney General U. S. Webb to Mrs. Edwin Selvin, chairman of the group, in which is given the legal title for the proposed initiative measure at their request, for your information.

The California State Federation of Labor has filed a formal protest against the petition on the ground that the title is misleading.

You are therefore requested to appoint a committee in your district for the purpose of warning the workers and others, discouraging the signing of the initiative petition, and ultimately defeating this initiative measure.

An analysis of the title given is convincing evidence of the drastic purposes of this measure, and it is necessary for labor to act promptly in this matter.

Please advise this office if they are working in your district on this petition, and your steps to combat this move.

EDWARD D. VANDELEUR,
Secretary California State Federation of Labor,
San Francisco, Calif.

Label Exhibit

(Continued from Page One)

Jacobs, in a singing, dance and athletic act, was an added attraction to the previously completed program and took the fancy of the audience at each of her appearances.

Business Concerns Aided Exhibition

It required seven large barrels to hold the ticket stubs that were deposited at the door and which were used in disposing of the various favors provided by business firms. These tickets were given free by merchants to their customers and also by unions, having previously been purchased from the Exhibition committee, and were a valued aid in financing and promoting the success of the show.

Presence of the cinema stars also provided field days for autograph seekers, and at each of their appearances the stage entrance was crowded by those armed with books and pencils. The stars were equal to the occasion, however, and with great patience and apparent enjoyment gave their signatures to all applicants.

The Exhibition was allowed to speak for itself in promotion of the union emblems, and only very short addresses were given at various times throughout the afternoons and evenings on the objects sought to be attained in presenting the displays. Among those who spoke on this subject were President Shelley and Secretary O'Connell of the Labor Council, President Watchman and Business Representative Ricketts of the Building and Construction Trades Council, Milton Maxell of the Butchers' Union, and President Neil Wallace of the Union Label Section of San Francisco. Secretary Thomas A. Rotell of the Union Label Section also at various times spoke a few sentences reminding the crowds of the merits of the union emblems.

Immense Success Attained

Exhibitors are generally pleased and enthusiastic over the immense success attained by the Exhibition, particularly with reference to the attendance and the opportunity thus presented for displaying the merits of union label products and union service.

George Taylor was at the microphone as master of ceremonies, except when the movie stars were being presented, at which time he turned the duties over to the popular Eddie Quillan, one of the Hollywood visitors. Taylor's work was of a high order throughout the Exhibition and highly appreciated by the committee.

San Francisco union labor is proud of its achievement, and congratulations have been showered upon the committee which had direct charge of details of the event both by the exhibitors themselves and by the general public. It now remains for the unions, and the business firms which are employing union labor and entitled to the use of the union emblems, to go forward in capitalizing upon the undreamed-of publicity which has come their way—to the end of maintaining the American standard of wages and working conditions which the union emblems represent. Patronize those firms which sell union label merchandise and provide union services.

Santa Fe Railway Prepares for New Service in California Field

The Santa Fe Railway has filed with the California Railroad Commission a certificate of acceptance of all terms and conditions of the recent Commission decision granting the company the right to engage in a co-ordinated one-ticket rail and bus operation.

The certificate of acceptance is accompanied by an affidavit signed by President Samuel T. Bledsoe, setting forth that the railway company has purchased and has received delivery of two lightweight, high speed, air conditioned, diesel-drawn trains of the latest type, and that these trains

will be ready and available for service between Oakland and Bakersfield on or before one hundred twenty days from April 18, the date of the decision of the Railroad Commission authorizing the new service.

The acceptance in full of the Railroad Commission's decision marks the second chapter in the Santa Fe's long drawn out fight for equality in California's intrastate passenger field. The Southern Pacific and the Pacific Greyhound Lines, which have vigorously opposed the Santa Fe applications, recently filed petitions with the Commission for a rehearing of the case.

The Santa Fe management announces that "combination of the world's most modern railroad and highway equipment will give California the finest intrastate passenger service in the nation."

National Council of Agricultural Workers

Romeo F. Vatuone, secretary of Cannery Workers' Union No. 20852, San Jose, the largest federal chartered union in California, was elected president of the National Council of Agricultural Workers at the monthly meeting at Marysville Sunday last.

Vatuone is succeeded as first vice-president by Mrs. Lena Loma, business agent of Cannery Workers' Union No. 20676, Stockton.

The next meeting of the Council, and all meetings thereafter unless otherwise specially decided, will be held in San Francisco because of the more central location, Vatuone announced following the meeting.

Plans for an intensive organizational campaign among all classes of agricultural workers were mapped at the meeting after Edward D. Vandeleur, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, addressed the Council. He pointed out that in the cannery industry in particular the workers were benefiting under contracts negotiated for the A. F. of L. unions by the Federation, and should immediately affiliate with unions in their districts.

"We will start a campaign at once to line up all fruit and vegetable cannery workers in northern and central California under the banner of the A. F. of L. unions already existing," Vatuone said.

"We will also seek to have cannery operators who are not covered by the recently negotiated agreement sign similar ones so that all workers in the industry will be employed under uniform wages and conditions," he said.

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Annual Year Book of California Federation

Containing a plea for everyone to work together to "Build California," and a variety of material relating to labor matters and the industries and attractions of the state, the "Year Book" of the California State Federation was issued here last week.

"Constructive progress in the interest of all California is the purpose of the California State Federation of Labor," was the introduction to an article by Edward D. Vandeleur, secretary-treasurer of the Federation, on "California's Constructive Labor."

Timely, with current developments in the labor field, Vandeleur also included an article entitled, "Peaceful Picketing Is Lawful," after extensive research and many expert legal opinions.

The "Year Book" also contains messages from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Frank Morrison, veteran secretary of the same body; C. J. Haggerty, president of the California State Federation of Labor; a history of the California State Federation of Labor, and other material.

Timothy A. Reardon, chairman of the Industrial Accident Commission, and Edward L. Nolan, state labor commissioner, are among the state contributors on timely subjects. The Union Label Section of the American Federation of Labor and the San Francisco Labor Council are well represented.

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A. F. of L. Political League of California Issues Conference Call

The American Federation of Labor Political League of California last week issued the call for its second conference, which will be held July 9 and 10 in Santa Barbara. The call is addressed to all central labor councils and unions in this state which are affiliated with the A. F. of L.

It is urged that immediate attention and consideration be given to the subject, "to the end that a well defined and constructive program shall be presented to the next conference."

Preliminary Procedure Outlined

The executive committee of the League, which is identical in personnel with the executive council of the California State Federation of Labor—a provision established at the first conference of the League—proposes in the conference call the following:

Immediate creation in each political subdivision of the state of a committee to prepare a list of known candidates and to consider their qualifications from the standpoint of friendliness to labor. Such committees, after studying qualifications of announced candidates and finding none favorable to labor, are asked to proceed in securing pledges of candidacy from persons favorable to labor who have not announced as candidates. After June 25, the official closing date for filing of nominations, the committees are requested to prepare recommendations on candidates for each office to be voted upon, giving reasons for indorsement or non-indorsement of candidates, these recommendations to be signed by the officers of the local or district committees.

Duties of Conference Committees

All such recommendations are to be delivered to the proper committees after arrival of the delegates at Santa Barbara. A general recommendations committee will be named by the executive committee or the president of the conference, and from the general committee sub-committees will be appointed to receive recommendations from local or district committees on United States senator, governor and lieutenant-governor, secretary of state and attorney general, state treasurer and controller, superintendent of public instruction, representatives in Congress, state senators and state assemblymen.

The sub-committees will report their findings to the general recommendations committee. This latter committee will then report to the conference. The candidates for United States senator and the seven offices will be nominated on a statewide basis and necessarily be considered by the conference as a whole.

The call further states: "For representatives in Congress, state senators and state assemblymen it is important that district committees come with full recommendations, as many of these contests will be settled on the basis of the recommendations submitted from various districts."

Voting Records of Incumbents

Included in the conference call is a compilation of the votes on labor measures of California incumbents in the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the State Senate and State Assembly, listed as "good," "bad," "not voting" and "paired." The A. F. of L. has provided the record of the senators and congressmen, while the particular bills upon which state senators and assemblymen are judged are to be found in the 1937 proceedings of the State Federation of Labor (those of the 1938 special legislative session having since been added in compiling the candidates' records).

The call for the coming Santa Barbara conference declares: "Labor's duty in the forthcoming elections is a duty to the entire membership of

organized labor as represented by the American Federation of Labor. The conscientious members of labor must see to it that there is no laxity in scrutinizing the qualifications of candidates so that we may give aid to our friends and defeat our enemies."

Each organization affiliated with the A. F. of L. Political League of California will be entitled to two delegates at the Santa Barbara gathering.

SPONSORS FOR CONCERT

An imposing list of sponsors headed by Frederick J. Koster has been announced for the Sacred Concert of Three Faiths to be held in the War Memorial Opera House Tuesday evening, May 24, at 8:20 o'clock. This concert, offering music representative of three faiths (Catholic, Protestant and Jewish), is said to be a "world premiere" in its own class. A music committee chosen from leading musicians amongst the three faiths has prepared a concert program worthy of the great music that has so long been identified with the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish denominations.

Big Boost to Employment Given By Public Works Administration

The Public Works Administration opened its fifty-ninth month of existence by announcing that since its inception in 1933 it has furnished 5,332,146,522 man-hours of employment on more than 26,000 projects.

Administrator Ickes said it provided three billion man-hours of employment, supplying demands for consumers' goods and services off the sites.

The project division reported to Ickes that P.W.A. has allotted \$3,339,648,376 in loans and grants for 26,427 federal and non-federal projects costing approximately \$4,475,037,553.

Nurses' Union No. 19923

By C. TRIPP, R. N.

Members of Nurses' Union No. 19923 were indeed glad to be part of the Union Label Exhibition this year. Along with the Hospital and Institutional Workers' Union we met many interested people and friends of organized labor. We felt that at last the nurse had found her rightful place—that is, being an active part of the American Federation of Labor.

We wish to thank all those who helped us publicize the Nurses' Union of San Francisco.

We again urge the unions to notify the Nurses' Union, Local 19923, when agreements or contracts are to be drawn up whereby the union nurse may be included in a clause or supplement which may be added to the agreement.

This, of course, is in line with union principles for union labor to patronize union labor, and is one of the biggest helps to the Nurses' Union, not only in employment, but in publicizing the Nurses' Union in making the public conscious of the nurse's place in the ranks of labor.

Office Workers' Fight For Local Autonomy

Following a protest sent by the Executive Board of Local No. 34, United Office and Professional Workers of America, C. I. O., to John L. Lewis and other national executives of the C. I. O. against the unwarranted interference of Harry Bridges, West Coast director, in their union affairs and choice of officers, the membership of Local No. 34 at its last meeting reaffirmed confidence in its officers and condemned an attempt to oust several active members of the organization by a Bridges-led group within the union.

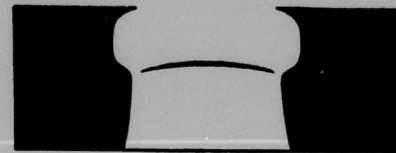
Armed with a mandate of the membership to fight for what the union considers its democratic and autonomous rights, Ernest Norback, business agent and general organizer, leaves this week for Washington, D. C., as the delegate of the San Francisco union to the national convention of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, being held May 18-22.

Local No. 34 has already enlisted the support of several progressive unions within the C. I. O. to combat this vicious attempt to destroy local autonomy and union democracy.

MILLIE GOLDBERG,

Publicity Director, No. 34, U. O. P. W. A.

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Run o' the Hook

By GEO. S. HOLLIS
President Typographical Union No. 21

With the weather man giving it about an even break, the May meeting of San Francisco Typographical Union, held last Sunday in the Labor Temple, was well attended. Its call to order was made at 1:08 p. m., with the roll call showing but one of the elective officers absent, a trustee . . . The union gained two members during the fiscal month ended May 14, there being 1529 on the roster on that date. . . The financial statement and report of the auditing committee were satisfactory, both being approved without comment. . . Propositions for membership from Vincent La-Macchia and Hector Sagasty were given their initial introduction. . . The report of the apprentice committee on the class of apprentices examined this month was approved. E. R. DeCamp and R. V. Grew were obligated as apprentice members. . . Dominic Ortesi was admitted as a journeyman member. The membership committee was granted additional time to investigate the application of F. H. Michael. . . Raymond B. Samaniego was expelled and a fine imposed against him for ratting. . . On request, the executive committee was given an extension of time to consider a proposed amendment to Section 46, Local General Laws, pertaining to time between shifts, and to continue its quest for new headquarters for the union. With some amendments, the plan proposed by the committee for the compensation of unemployed members of the union was adopted. The proposition will be voted on by the referendum at the election to be held next Wednesday, May 25. . . The applications of the Charles L. Conlan Printers, 83 Clementina street, and Loyal Blinco, 500 Sansome street, for permission to use the union label of the Allied Printing Trades Council, were approved. . . Twenty-three nominations for positions on the board of thirteen that will canvass the vote of the May 25 election were made. The successful nominees were Messrs. Seymour, Stringfellow, Rewak, Shephard, Hyman, Hein, Mann, Hebner, Moon, McIntyre, Doolittle and Veal, and Emma C. Smith. Messrs. E. A. Eickworth, R. A. Harvie, A. G. Neilson, F. J. Weiler and J. E. Whiting and Miss Agnes Mercer were the tellers who tabulated the vote for members of the canvassing board. . . C. S. Keesling verbally reported for the sports committee. Reviewing its activities, he said the committee now had the formation of a softball team virtually completed, and was about ready to devote some attention to bowling and golf, much interest in which was being shown. . . Mr. Don Lee, representing the Retail Shoe Clerks and Textile Salesmen's Union, extended the courtesy of the platform, explained the difficulty the shoe clerks are experiencing in organizing the clerks employed in the Florsheim shoe stores. Mr. Lee closed his remarks with a request for the co-operation of all of organized labor in San Francisco with the Shoe Clerks with that objective in view. . . The union complied with the American Federation of Labor's request for indorsement of the wages and hours bill pending in Congress, and went on record as opposing the proposed change in the state insurance compensation known as the retrospective plan. The communication from the Building Service Employees' Union inviting participation of the union in a trade union bowling tournament was referred to the sports committee. . . Four applications for the old age pension were approved. . . As a mark of respect and in memory of those members of the union

who departed this life during the last year those in attendance at the meeting stood in reverential silence as the names of the deceased were enunciated. . . The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p. m.

Robert Lee Hollis, a member of Atlanta (Ga.) Typographical Union No. 48, was a San Francisco visitor over the last weekend. Mr. Hollis had accompanied a fellow member of Atlanta to the Union Printers' Home. Having come thus far west, he decided to continue his journey to the Pacific Coast, with which, he said, he was most favorably impressed. He is employed in the composing room of the Atlanta "Georgian" and left for his home via Los Angeles and the southern route last Monday, saying he expected to be one among the millions who will attend the Golden Gate International Exposition and Pageant in 1939.

J. H. Fitzgerald, a member of the union now in the employ of the San Francisco branch of the Intertype Corporation, left yesterday for Clay Center, Kan., for a visit with his mother, whom he has not seen for some years. Homeward bound, Mr. Fitzgerald's itinerary will include Colorado Springs and a visit to the Union Printers' Home.

The sincere sympathy of members of the union is extended to Messrs H. A. and M. W. Dunham of the R. H. Norton Chapel, whose beloved mother departed this life last Sunday.

The biennial election of officers of the International Typographical Union will be held next Wednesday (May 25). At the same election members of San Francisco Typographical Union will select their delegates and alternate delegates to the I. T. U. convention in Birmingham and the California State Federation of Labor convention in Santa Barbara, both of which will be held next September. San Francisco Union will also vote on a proposed plan for the relief of its unemployed members.

The softball team of No. 21 enters into sturdy competition this coming Sunday morning by playing a team from the Link Belt Company, composed of members of the Machinists' and Steel Workers' Unions. A lot of sporting fun is afforded those Typo members who turn out for play, and an interesting two hours of rooting for union brothers to those who wish to remain on the side lines. Practices are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 p. m. on at Sixth and Harrison streets. The Sunday game is scheduled for 10 o'clock at James Rolph field, Potrero avenue and Army street.

Call Bulletins—By "Hoot"

Last year several of the boys were hit by Cupid, but after a while the epidemic died out. The gang all thought the eligibles were taken. But not so. This week Hiram ("Chubby") Hedges has a "TF" slip on. Yes, "Chubby" provides the front page news. Congratulations, and may all your troubles be little ones.

Joe Lang got a big surprise one day last week. His wife had fallen heir to a small fortune and invited Joe out for lunch, the "fortune" being just big enough for the lunch. Lucky guy.

Charles Staples, for many years a member of the chapel and long time chairman, is now on the retired list, taking care of the chickens up in Marvelous Marin. The ducks also take Charley's fancy.

For several weeks the members of the chapel put in a strenuous time with the city budget, but the rush has passed and everything is back to normal.

We forgot to mention in Chubby's notice of intention no age was stated—for Chubby. He took part in the war, which one we don't know. But it ought to stand him in good stead now.

Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

The May union meeting had a 57 per cent attendance. Newly-elected officers were installed by ex-Secretary-Treasurer Alfred F. O'Neil. Leroy Bennetts and P. R. Gaskill were elected members of the executive committee in a three-way runoff. Harold I. Christie and P. R. Gaskill will make the race for delegate to the I. T. U. convention.

Joe Howard was reported on the sick list. George Wyatt was reported much improved and expected to return home from the hospital within the coming two weeks.

Lloyd Del Nore, apprentice, was given the obligation.

D. H. Smith and P. C. Roberts deposited travelers.

Charles Duncombe, former member of No. 18, passed away in this city on May 12—his birthday. Two sisters survive him.

The Union Label Exhibition proved to be one of the biggest attractions ever held at the Civic Auditorium in this city. Why not make it a yearly event? Mailers' Union No. 18 was represented in the Allied Printing Trades Section by Secretary-Treasurer Joseph P. Bailey and Howard I. Christie, secretary of the Allied. Much interest was shown by visitors in the mailing of the Labor Clarion by Al Barbrack and N. Spang, and an exhibition of addressograph mailing by R. Matli and L. Searles.

Nominations for officers of Los Angeles Mailers' Union election to be held on May 25: President, W. J. Bassett, R. M. Hudson, A. L. Whitaker, C. L. Wohlford. Vice-President, W. W. Hammer. Recording Secretary, J. A. Breslin, George Huffman, E. O. Grenninger. Secretary-treasurer, Elimo Mathiesen. Delegate to I. T. U. convention, George Gilliland, A. L. Whitaker. The Los Angeles union will hold a referendum vote on the following proposition: "Shall a one-half of 1 per cent assessment be levied for one year, beginning June 1, 1938, to maintain the office of business agent?"

As an active member of an M. T. D. U. union views assessments—he writes: "The mailer delegates, M. T. D. U. convention, Louisville, voted to put another 25 cents on our cards without the mailers being allowed a vote by referendum. This, I believe, is illegal and unfair. The printer delegates, Louisville, as soon as they heard of what the mailer delegates put over on the boys back home, decided that that racket should never be put over on them, so they brought in Proposition No. 2, which carried by an enormous vote. Indications point to a movement on foot to withdraw from the M. T. D. U."

UNION BOOSTS SALE OF PEACHES

Reduction of the canned peach surplus by concerted buying of the product is urged on all members of the American Federation of Labor by East Bay Cities Corrugated Fibre Products and Wax Papers Workers' Union, No. 382, in letters recently sent out by Harry C. Gilmore, secretary-treasurer of the unit. Gilmore said that one of the largest volume items manufactured by concerns employing members of the union is canned peach cases.

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Eliminate Sales Tax On Restaurant Meals

A statewide movement to eliminate the sales tax on foodstuffs and beverages served in eating places has been started in Long Beach with the circulation of initiative petitions proposing the amending of the state sales tax act at the general election, November 8.

Proponents of the movement, the Dine-Without-Tax Corporation, a non-profit organization consisting of Long Beach restaurant operators, contend that it is unfair to exempt foodstuffs sold at grocery stores and tax them when served in restaurants.

More than 12,000 signatures were obtained in Long Beach during the first three days the petitions were in circulation, according to Arthur W. Chollett, president of the association.

Signatures of 250,000 California voters will be sought before July 22, final date for filing the petitions with county clerks throughout the state. To bring the issue to a vote 188,000 valid signatures are required.

California restaurant operators, their patrons and the public generally are expected to support the movement. Petitions are to be circulated throughout the state as rapidly as possible. The measure to be submitted has been approved as to content and legal requirements by Attorney General U. S. Webb. It has been indorsed by the California Intelligence Bureau and other organizations.

If adopted the amendment will become effective January 1, 1939.

Private Detective Agencies Try Many Ways to Balk Investigation

The interim report of the La Follette Civil Liberties Committee is a chronicle of a huge work well done, and a forecast of still more work to do.

"The committee has held seventy-four days of hearings," says the report, "examined 343 witnesses, issued fifteen volumes of records, together with three reports, and has others in preparation. These records have provided the basis for legislation passed in several states pertaining to various aspects of civil liberties and the rights of labor . . . The committee is in almost daily receipt of requests from many parts of the country for specific investigations."

The committee notes that in its recent work "stripped files, doctored books, piecemeal responses to requests for information, and witnesses schooled in forgetting on the witness stand are encountered at every turn.

"A recent witness, head of a detective agency, admitted frankly that he had destroyed his records shortly after the committee came into existence. It was his understanding, he stated, that similar agencies, hundreds in number, did likewise. . . . Officers of an important local employers' association with which this labor detective was allied admitted the destruction of their own records, to thwart investigation. . . .

"Such things go beyond a mere challenge to investigate governmental rights of investigation—the right of the people to ascertain facts of public concern. Such practices are part and parcel of the thwarting of labor's rights which the committee is studying. Secrecy and camouflage are essential elements in the larger threat to democracy."

STATE EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS

The May issue of the "California Labor Market Bulletin," released by Edward L. Nolan, state labor commissioner, shows decreases in employment and payrolls in April, 1938, as compared with April, 1937. Average weekly earnings, however, increased from \$28.45 in April, 1937, to \$28.95 in April, 1938, an increase of 1.8 per cent. The total number of wage earners employed in manufactur-

ing establishments covered by reports filed with the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement in its monthly survey of employment and earnings for the week ending nearest the 15th of April was 174,530, a decrease of 19.8 per cent when compared with the number employed (217,729) in the same establishments during the corresponding week of April, 1937. These data are for 1916 representative manufacturing establishments, employing more than 65 per cent of all the wage earners in California manufacturing plants.

Municipal Bankruptcy Act Upheld By United States Supreme Court

The United States Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of the new municipal bankruptcy act, and opened a way for some 300 distressed cities, towns, villages and districts to move for an adjustment of their indebtedness. The decision was read by Chief Justice Hughes and was reached by a vote of 6 to 2, Justices McReynolds and Butler dissenting.

In 1936, by a vote of 5 to 4, the court invalidated the original municipal bankruptcy act, McReynolds writing the decision. Chief Justice Hughes and Justices Brandeis, Stone and Cardozo dissented.

Twelve Thousand Men To Be Moved From City

Welfare authorities in Flint, Mich., are considering moving from Genesee county to other localities more than 12,000 men who face a jobless future in General Motors plants there. The men's families would also be moved.

Faced with the prospect that all General Motors plants will close before July 1 for the summer, Welfare Administrator Lewis J. Ludington said the welfare department would be unable to care for the increased numbers of unemployed.

Ludington said that under the tentative plan each family would be given transportation to whatever new home it chose. No provision had been made for families with no choice, or those who would prefer to remain in Flint.

Employment at Low Level

"Officials of the companies have told us," Ludington said, "that all men with less than two years of seniority will be permanently out of work. They suggested that this plan of moving the men and their families to some other location was the only way to solve the situation."

Flint is the production center for Buick, Chevrolet, Fisher Body, A-C Spark Plug and other General Motors units. In normal times General Motors' Flint plants employ 50,000 men, but employment recently has fallen to approximately 22,000.

Ludington said that with 12,700 families now on welfare roles, and with an anticipated increase of at least 12,300 more by July 1, both Flint and Genesee county faced bankruptcy unless something could be done to alleviate the problem.

General Movement Planned

"We are going to institute a general movement," he said, "in which all the civic organizations will be asked to co-operate. Already the plan to move these families out of the city has received the support of the manufacturers, the chamber of commerce and other organizations." Transportation to a new home will be paid by the welfare department, Ludington said.

Asked whether officials of the United Automobile Workers' Union had been consulted on the plan, Ludington said several of them had expressed "personal approval," but that the official attitude of the union was not yet known.

Ludington said the city of Flint already had exceeded its 15-mill limit of indebtedness and that the county would have exceeded it by July 1.

Florida Workers Told To Resist Disruption

"Four million members of the American Federation of Labor and countless millions of other interested citizens throughout the United States are looking toward Pensacola today," said George L. Googe, Southern representative of the American Federation of Labor and personal representative of President William Green, in addressing the recent Florida State Federation of Labor convention at Pensacola.

"With equal interest," he continued, "these people are also looking toward Bogalusa, La., for it is here in this city and in the city of Bogalusa that the first conventions of the State Federations of Labor in the South are being held this year. These conventions are more significant than you, perhaps, realize.

Disrupters Answered

"Just one year ago the efforts being made by a few self-appointed and self-styled members of a Committee for Industrial Organization were at their highest peak. Because of false and groundless charges made by these few men against the American Federation of Labor, and because of the glowing promises, however impossible of fulfillment, made to the workers by these men, confusion reigned for a while within our ranks.

"So now, at the end of another year, the delegates representing the local labor unions and the central labor unions of the great State of Florida have assembled here in Pensacola. And in this meeting is the answer to those who would disrupt the labor movement. That is why I say to you that the eyes of the nation are looking this way today."

For Uniform Minimum Pay

"With the C. I. O. definitely out of the picture in the South," Googe added, "we can devote our full time and efforts to a continuation of our constructive program. With the tens of thousands of new members who have joined our established organizations, and with the hundreds of new local unions formed during the past year, we are better prepared than ever before to advance the interests of all of the working people of the South.

"Our first objective just now is that of resisting all efforts to saddle a lower minimum wage rate upon the South than that adopted for other sections of the country. We shall insist upon one minimum wage rate for all of the United States. Likewise, we shall resist all efforts to place the interests and the welfare of the working people of the South in the hands of a board of any kind."

GARAGE EMPLOYEES' DANCE

Announcement is made by Garage Employees' Union No. 665, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, that their fourth annual dance will be held Saturday evening of next week, May 28. The event will take place at California Hall, Polk and Turk streets, and the admission price will be 50 cents.

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Proposal to Increase State Tax on Gasoline Is Bitterly Resented

Unqualified opposition to any increase in the state gasoline tax was declared this week by the California State Automobile Association.

The declaration was prompted by statements in official quarters that an additional 1-cent tax might be sought, increasing the state tax from 3 cents per gallon to 4 cents, with the federal 1-cent tax making a total of 5 cents.

Francis Carr of Redding, president of the Automobile Association, announced that the motorists' organization, representing more than 85,000 members, would exert "every resource" to combat a boost in the tax.

"Motorists already bear a heavy burden of taxation," Carr said. "They can not be expected to tolerate any addition to that burden. Those who suggest an increase should also remember that higher tax rates do not always produce more revenue. Reduced use of the automobile is likely to result if taxes become heavier."

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WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

Austin Studio, 833 Market.

B & G Sandwich Shops.

Beauty Shops at 133 Geary.

Blue Danube Restaurant, 24 Ellis.

Clinton Cafeterias.

Curtis Publishing Co., publishers of "Saturday Evening Post," "Ladies' Home Journal," "Country Gentleman."

Don's Dollar Sedan Service, 925 Larkin.

Forderer Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.

Golden State Bakery, 1840 Polk.

Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of overalls and workmen's clothing.

Gordon's Sea Food Grotto, Ferry Building.

Haas Bros. Candy Stores.

Howard Automobile Company.

Kroehler Furniture Manufacturing Company.

L. C. Smith Typewriter Company, 545 Market.

Navlett Seed Company, 423 Market.

O'Keefe-Meritt Stove Co. Products, Los Angeles.

Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.

Photo-Chrome Company, 4240 Hollis, Emeryville.

Pig 'n' Whistle Candy Stores.

Remington-Rand Inc., 509 Market.

Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.

Standard Oil Company.

Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.

Woodstock Typewriter Company, 21 Second.

Wooldridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.

All Non-Union independent taxicabs.

Barber shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.

Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of Hair Dressers and Cosmetologists' Union No. 148-A are unfair.

Former State Senator Arthur H. Breed of Oakland, a director and former president of the Automobile Association, and known as "father of the gas tax," vigorously opposed the suggested increase.

"It is not generally realized that the average motorist works two weeks a year to pay his annual automotive tax bill," Breed said. "California motorists will be on guard against any increase. They will not be misled by efforts to represent such an increase as merely temporary. They know from bitter experience that so-called 'temporary' taxes tend to become permanent, as witness the federal 1-cent tax on gasoline."

Women's Part in Illuminating City In Time for Opening of Exhibition

Illuminated house numbering for 105,000 homes, flats and apartments throughout San Francisco before the end of the year—

House numbers that shine at night to greet Exposition visitors and aid local residents—a house numbering style that has received the plaudits of Fire Chief Charles J. Brennan as adding to "the security of life and property"—

That is to be the objective sought by Supervisor Adolph E. Schmidt, chairman of the Citizens' City Beautiful Committee, in an intensive drive that started this week under the direction of Mrs. W. J. O'Donnell, president of the San Francisco Women's Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the house numbering committee.

The campaign will continue until every home and property owned in San Francisco has been contacted and urged to make the improvement, Mrs. O'Donnell announced.

Every member of the Women's Chamber of Commerce will be "on the working line," she said.

SCHOOL PATROL REVIEW

Thousands of members of School Safety Patrol squads in all parts of northern and central California will assemble in San Francisco on Friday, May 27, for a review that is expected to provide the greatest mass demonstration of the Patrol movement ever held in the state. It will be a public rendering of honor to the Patrols for their safety work protecting schoolmates at crossings.

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Crop Insurance Started By Secretary Wallace

The wheat farmers' crop insurance program, authorized by a federal statute recently enacted by the United States Congress, was launched by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace in a broadcast speech from Washington before a meeting of Midwestern farm leaders.

Declaring that "projects like crop insurance, which require both planning and co-operation, help make democracy work," he said "the succession of boom and collapse is what cripples democracy," and that "the swing from surplus to shortage of farm products is one of the causes of that succession," adding:

"The cycle of glut and scarcity is one of the most menacing aspects of our economy. More stability of supplies and prices is the aim of our crop insurance. Such stabilization safeguards democracy."

In explaining the program, Secretary Wallace said the farmer can insure his wheat crop for either one-half or three-quarters of the average yield, the premium being smaller for one-half.

He estimated the cost of insuring three-fourths of the average crop at about one-half bushel an acre a year on the best wheat land, one to one-and-a-half bushels on good wheat land and two to two-and-a-half bushels on high risk land.

After the farmer pays his premium he can take his wheat to the elevator as usual and secure a warehouse receipt made out for the amount required to pay the premium. If he desires to pay cash the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation will buy enough of his wheat for the premium.

"We do not know how the wheat insurance program will pan out," Wallace said, "but we do know that the principle of insurance is applied in almost every field, and that if this plan gives farmers adequate protection against crop losses millions of farmers will be benefited."

He was convinced that if wheat insurance succeeds the principle will be expanded to cotton and corn, and perhaps other crops, but if it fails for wheat it will very likely be abandoned.

FROWN ON ANNUAL PAY

The proposal of the Ford Brotherhood of America that the Ford Motor Company establish a \$1500 minimum annual wage has found little sympathy in United Automobile Workers of America quarters, says a Detroit dispatch. Richard T. Frankenstein, assistant president of the U. A. W., a C. I. O. affiliate, said his union would not accept "so low an annual wage." Harry H. Bennett, personnel director of the Ford Company, received the proposal with little enthusiasm.

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National Bowl of Rice Ball June 17 to Climax Drive for Chinese Aid

Labor's coast-to-coast drive for civilian Chinese relief is under way, with announcement from Washington by National Chairman Matthew Woll that the first phase will wind up with a national Bowl of Rice Ball on June 17.

Labor's National Committee for Civilian Chinese Relief has appointed 500 local general chairmen throughout the country and these, in turn, have organized local committees ready for every branch of activity.

General headquarters is suggesting that each Bowl of Rice Ball follow a uniform pattern, as far as possible, with a general charge of \$1, with a national goal of at least a million dollar total net return for Chinese relief.

In each case the simple bowl of rice is to be used as the main dinner item—in many cases a bowl of the rice and tea will constitute the entire dinner.

One Big United Movement

In addition to Labor's National Committee, four other relief groups have joined the great undertaking to form one great United Council for Civilian Chinese Relief.

In this picture are the trade union auxiliary members, under the national chairmanship of Maie Fox Lowe, with 22,000,000 women rallying to the undertaking.

Best estimates today are that more than fifty million Chinese are suffering, with most of them in utmost depths of misery and hunger. Epidemic disease is an ever-present menace. Perhaps the world never has known such a huge relief necessity.

Blow at Imperialism Seen

The heroic defense of the Chinese armies has in no way changed the enormous picture of disaster and suffering, although it has beyond doubt rebuilt the Chinese morale and given the Japanese imperialists a new concept of "the destiny of empire," in the view of National Chairman Woll.

"We must throw our full strength into this great effort," said Mr. Woll. "The relief task is staggering. But let me make it clear that we have in this case something in addition to relief. We have the ambitions of a militarist-imperialist invader to deal with. Every bit of relief we can muster helps by that much not only to relieve suffering, but to stop imperialism. At a time when so much of the world has gone over to one form or another of dictatorship, our effort takes on the size and importance of international defense of freedom."

Great Radio Hook-Up

"Our labor effort becomes the most important effort in the world in the pathway of imperialist and dictatorial ambitions. I am sure our whole movement will rally in this tremendous drive for relief. Let me add that every cent raised will go to the relief of the Chinese sufferers."

Every Bowl of Rice Ball will be brought into a great coast-to-coast radio hook-up on the night of June 17. A national broadcast is being arranged and every local unit is being asked to arrange for radio reception in its hall or in whatever place the ball is held, so that all may be brought together around a central theme. Where there are public address systems these will be hooked up with the radio program. In other places radio sets will be installed.

LUBRICATE FAN

The fan bearing should be given attention every time the car is lubricated, according to the Emergency Road Service of the California State Automobile Association.

LABOR TEMPLE IMPROVEMENT

Superintendent William P. McCabe, under authority given by the board of directors of the Hall Association, last week had fine new terrazzo steps installed in the main entrance to the Labor Temple. They replace the marble steps which have done service since the Temple was built, twenty-four years ago.

State Civil Service

To find qualified applicants for positions in the state civil service, the State Personnel Board has scheduled the following examinations:

Applications must be filed by May 28: Junior structural engineering draftsman (men), \$170 a month; assistant structural engineering draftsman (men), \$215 a month; institution housekeeper (women), \$100 a month; net man and boatswain (men), \$130 a month; institution cook (men and women), \$120 a month; institution baker (men), \$160 a month; assistant institution baker (men), \$110 a month.

Applications must be filed by June 4: Janitress (women), \$100 a month; supervisor of traffic safety education (men), \$230 a month; veterinary live stock inspector (men), \$215 a month.

Complete information and application blanks for each of the examinations can be secured from the Board offices, San Francisco.

'Buddy Poppy' Campaign

Without the stimulus of martial music, without the shouts of a populace keyed to a high pitch of patriotism, all over the country thousands of hospitalized disabled world war veterans are "carrying on." Not forgotten, but only in the hustle and bustle of everyday life a bit neglected, these men receive from the public on occasions a demonstration that the country has not forgotten their sacrifice.

On "buddy poppy" days, from May 27 to May 30, inclusive, conducted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, San Francisco has its greatest opportunity to send word to these men in hospitals that San Francisco still remembers. Everyone who wears a "buddy poppy" on Memorial Day contributes in his or her small way to the message sent to these disabled veterans, men who did not hesitate when their country called.

Practically all proceeds from the sale of "buddy poppies" in San Francisco remain here, with the exception of the amount sent to the National Veterans' Home. These proceeds are devoted to the aid, benefit and comfort of ex-service men and their dependents, hospital relief, individual relief for ex-service men, their widows and orphans, and other activities of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Questions and Answers

On Old-Age Insurance Provisions of the Social Security Act

Some 40 per cent of the total population of California has applied for Social Security Accounts under the old-age insurance provisions of the Social Security Act. Because of the vast number of persons who come under this program this newspaper is publishing a series of questions and answers for the benefit of its readers.

Q. Is every dollar of wages earned paid the same amount of old-age retirement benefit?

A. No. The lower amounts of total wages earned provide a slightly higher percentage of benefit in order to provide more liberal consideration for lower paid workers. Workers who already are middle-aged will also benefit by this provision, since they are only able to earn wage credits for a limited number of years.

Q. If my fiftieth birthday was July 2, 1936, and from June, 1936, until I reach 65 my wages average \$150 a month, how much will my total wages be?

A. Only wages from employment after December 31, 1936, can be included. Your sixty-fifth birthday occurs on July 2, 1951, and you will be able to include wages from employment during fourteen and one-half years, or 174 months. If your wages during this period amount to an average of \$150 a month your total wages will be \$26,100.

Q. I expect to work thirty years before I reach 65 and during that time to earn an average of \$1500 a year. What will my federal old-age retirement benefit amount to?

A. Your federal old-age retirement benefit will amount to \$600 a year, or \$50 a month.

Further questions and answers will appear from week to week.

Attention, Secretaries!

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